

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 12, 2024

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to some of the changes that are being proposed as part of the United States Postal Services' (USPS) 10-year Delivering for America (DFA) Plan. Over the last several months, our constituents have made their concerns regarding the future of Wyoming's mail operations crystal clear.

In early November 2023, it was announced that the USPS was initiating a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of the Cheyenne Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) in Cheyenne, WY, and that a public meeting would later be held to discuss the initial findings of the study and solicit community feedback. Upon conducting such meeting, which was scheduled at a time that was inconvenient to many Wyomingites, including relevant industry stakeholders, it was revealed that the initial findings of the study supported the "modernization" of the Cheyenne P&DC as a Local Processing Center (LPC) while "transferring some mail processing operations to the Denver P&DC in Denver, CO." An identical MPFR has since been announced for the Casper P&DC in Casper, WY.

Since the initial findings of the review were released, the amount of information provided by the USPS, including the duration of the review, whether the initial findings have shifted, and an estimated timeline for a decision, among other critical details, have been withheld. This is particularly perturbing as the impact these decisions will have on the integrity of Wyoming's mail operations, in addition to the livelihoods of those who carry out these responsibilities, will be significant. Despite repeated assurances that the goal of this 10-year strategy is to maximize the efficiency of the USPS, it is our concern that the state of Wyoming is being overlooked and shortchanged in order to achieve a broader objective. Reliable, timely, and efficient mail service in Wyoming is just as important as anywhere else in the nation.

We commend and appreciate both the structural and operational improvements that the USPS has sought to implement, and while we understand these changes are taking effect across the nation, it must be highlighted and understood that Wyoming is likely one of the few states that will ultimately be losing the bulk, if not all, of its mail processing capabilities. Among other anticipated service disruptions, multiple concerns have also been raised, notably by the Wyoming Secretary of State, as to the effects these proposals will have on Wyoming's ballot-counting operations and the integrity of the state's election systems. If election mail faces processing delays due to their being in another state, this effectively undermines Wyoming's electoral process. This is simply not acceptable, and stripping Wyoming of these processing services places our state's operations on an unequal footing compared to other states. Wyoming's mail deserves to be processed in Wyoming.

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution gives Congress the authority "To establish Post Offices and post Roads" and "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper" to carry out this duty. With that being said, it is important that Wyoming's representatives in Congress are kept privy to any major reforms and decisions so that we may communicate those to our constituents and evaluate whether they are truly in the best interest of our citizens. As it currently stands, and based on the information that has been provided or lack thereof, we do not believe these changes are in the best interest of Wyoming, and we do not believe that our constituents have been given an adequate opportunity to participate in this process.

For the reasons set forth above, we are requesting a meeting with you at your earliest convenience so that we may communicate both our concerns and those of our constituents, and hopefully receive answers to our questions on the processes and consequences in play as part of the USPS' DFA Plan. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss these issues and pursue solutions that are truly in the best interest of Wyoming.

Sincerely,



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator



Harriet M. Hageman
Member of Congress